



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
SUPERFUND SITE STRATEGY RECOMMENDATION - REGION 06



Site Name: Christmas Day Mine - NM0119

CERCLIS ID#: N/A

Alias Site Name: Phil, Christmas Day No. 1-4

Address: Latitude 35 degrees 17'40.18" Longitude 107 degrees 47'19.23"

City/County or Parish/State/Zip: McKinley County, New Mexico

Report Type: AUM SA Report

Date: 05/28/10

Author: NMEMNRD

**RECOMMENDATION:**

<input type="checkbox"/> 1. No Further Remedial Action Planned Under Superfund (NFRAP)	<input type="checkbox"/> 2. Further Investigation Needed Under Superfund <table border="0"><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> PA</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> HRS</td><td>Priority: <input type="checkbox"/> High</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> SI</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> RI/FS</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> Low</td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> ESI</td><td><input type="checkbox"/> RA</td><td></td></tr><tr><td><input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____</td><td></td><td></td></tr></table> To be performed by: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> PA	<input type="checkbox"/> HRS	Priority: <input type="checkbox"/> High	<input type="checkbox"/> SI	<input type="checkbox"/> RI/FS	<input type="checkbox"/> Low	<input type="checkbox"/> ESI	<input type="checkbox"/> RA		<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____		
<input type="checkbox"/> PA	<input type="checkbox"/> HRS	Priority: <input type="checkbox"/> High											
<input type="checkbox"/> SI	<input type="checkbox"/> RI/FS	<input type="checkbox"/> Low											
<input type="checkbox"/> ESI	<input type="checkbox"/> RA												
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____													
<input type="checkbox"/> 3. Action Deferred to: <input type="checkbox"/> RCRA <input type="checkbox"/> NRC <input type="checkbox"/> BLM													
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4. Site Being Addressed Under the State Voluntary Cleanup Program (VCP): <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No													

**NOTIFY AUTHORITY:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Removal	<input type="checkbox"/> RCRA	<input type="checkbox"/> TSCA	<input type="checkbox"/> CAA	<input type="checkbox"/> SMCRA
<input type="checkbox"/> Remedial	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State/Tribe	<input type="checkbox"/> NPDES	<input type="checkbox"/> NRC	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resource Trustee: <u>BLM</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> CERCLA	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal	<input type="checkbox"/> UIC	<input type="checkbox"/> SPCC	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Enforcement	Facility			

SEND SSSR COPIES TO: ☐ 6SF-AC ☐ 6WQ-SP ☐ ATSDR ☒ State Agency ☐ Tribal Agency

**DISCUSSION:**

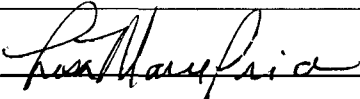
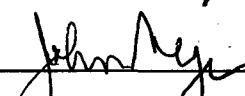
The New Mexico Energy Minerals and Natural Resources Department, Mine and Minerals Division (MMD) conducted a site assessment on April 7, 2010 at the Christmas Day Mine site. The mine operated as a dry mine from 1954 to 1956. This mine is part of Section 4, which includes: Black Hawk; Bunney; UDC; Gay Eagle; and, Red Bluff 1, 5, 7-10. MMD observed no shafts, adits or declines, but did note one C-shaped pit, one waste rock pile, and one overburden pile. The maximum radiation reading was measured at 900 uR/hr. MMD observed no evidence of erosion. There are no residences within one mile of the mine site. One non-domestic well is located within one mile of the mine site. The land surface is privately owned but the mineral estate is held by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding between EPA and the New Mexico State Office of the BLM, August 2011, EPA is to take the lead in addressing mine sites where the BLM just retains the mineral interest but does not hold a surface estate.

In October 2011, EPA conducted an aerial radiological survey in the Poison Canyon area of the Ambrosia Lake sub-district by using the Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology (ASPECT). The Christmas Day Mine was included in the ASPECT survey. The gamma radiation readings at the Christmas Day Mine site were not statistically greater than background readings in the area.

EPA recommends that the Christmas Day Mine should be considered a low priority under CERCLA due to low gamma radiation readings.



**APPROVALS:**

<b>Report Reviewed by:</b>	<u>Lisa Marie Price</u> (Site Assessment Manager)	<b>Signature:</b>	<u></u>	<b>Date:</b>	<u>1/24/12</u>
<b>Disposition Approved by:</b>	<u>John Meyer</u> (Section Chief 6SF-TR)	<b>Signature:</b>	<u></u>	<b>Date:</b>	<u>1/25/12</u>